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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Chief, Industrial Division, ORR

DATE: 2 March 1959

FROM : Chief, Electronic Equipment Branch, ORR

SUBJECT: Monthly Activity Report, February, 1959

1. Status of Branch Projects:

- a) Project 36.1935, "Trends in the Electronics Industry of the USSR."
Due D/I: 5 January 1959 25X1A9a
Analyst: [REDACTED]

Review of this project has been completed by St/PB and it is being prepared for final publication.

- b) Project 36.2378, "Trends in the Electronics Industries of the European Satellites," Phase I, East Germany.
Due D/I: 19 January 1959
Due St/PR: 1 March 1959
25X1A9a Analyst: [REDACTED]

25X1A9a Phase 1 of this Project, East Germany, has been forwarded for Division review. Phase 2, Hungary will begin 1 April, assigned to Mr. [REDACTED]

- c) Project 36.2065, "Trends in the Electronics Industry of Communist China."
Due D/I: 1 February 1959
Due St/PR: 1 April 1959
Analyst: [REDACTED] 25X1A9a

This project has been forwarded for Division review.

- d) Project 36.1556, "The Electron Tube Industry of the USSR."
Due D/I: 15 February 1959
Due St/PR: 15 March 1959
Analyst: [REDACTED] 25X1A9a

This project is still in the hands of the Branch Chief for a re-statement of methodology. Review of projects 36.2065 and 36.2378, and preparation of FY-60 program has held up completion. The basic work remaining is a recalculation of some statistical material and retyping of the methodology. It will be submitted to D/I by 15 March, without fail. A small amount of new information is also being incorporated.

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Sanitized - Approved For Release : CIA-RDP62S00231A000100210073-1

- 2 -

SUBJECT: Monthly Activity Report, February 1959

- e) Project 36.2377, "The Production and Utilization of Semi-Conductor Elements in the USSR."
Due D/I: 15 February 1959
Due St/PR: 15 April 1959

The project analyst has not completed the remaining work which was scheduled to have been completed by 15 February. The problem appears to be in the completion of detail necessary for preparation in final draft form (foreword, summary, source list, etc.) The analyst has been given until 15 March to complete the project. A re-assignment of the project will be made on 9 March if progress is not noted by that time.

- f) Project 36.2396, "The Impact of Guided Missile Requirements on the Soviet Electronics Industry."
Due D/I: Open
Analyst: [REDACTED]

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Progress to date on this project has been limited to the acquisition of data which completely defines the electronic ground support equipment of weapons system 315A (Thor) in terms of physical characteristics, use patterns, and unit prices. These data were received from a classified publication by a U.S. manufacturer which appears to be a unique type of report. Efforts are being made to discover whether additional publications of this type exist. Other data received from the Department of Defense are too aggregative for use in this project.

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[REDACTED] has conferred with officials of the [REDACTED], which has a problem that is essentially the same as his: the development electronic costs for US missile systems. [REDACTED] is presently attempting to refine existing factors used in estimating US production of electronic equipment for missiles. To the extent that

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[REDACTED] is supported in this job by US manufacturers, we will be able to obtain valuable information from them.

2. Status of Support Projects:

Work is now fully underway on the 1959 Soviet NIE program. Emphasis is being placed on the refinement of the Military, Industrial, and Civil Communications sub-sector estimates.

The Branch has been informed that the 1959 contribution to the ChiCom NIE will be satisfied by the estimate cards prepared for project 36.2065. A copy of this project has been forwarded to A/F for coordination and review.

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- 3 -

SUBJECT: Monthly Activity Report, February, 1959

A project initiation memorandum will be prepared and forwarded within a few days requesting the initiation of a project in support of OO/C, in connection with the time required for [REDACTED] to spend in the next two months 25X1A9a on the Exchange Program.

Some difficulty is being felt in the preparation of the Branch contribution to the Soviet NIE on Science and Technology. [REDACTED] has discussed this with [REDACTED] The contribution will be delayed slightly beyond the 2 March deadline. 25X1A9a

3. Changes in Estimates:

Intelligence on Soviet production of consumer radio and television sets now indicates that the original 1960 goals will not be met until at least 1965. These plan revisions are probably connected to the inability of the USSR to meet the original goals in electron tube production (original goal 1960-200 million tubes; I/EE estimate 1960-150 million tubes). Current information indicates, however, that the USSR will be able to offset the difficulty in electron tube production by a production of transistors in excess of their original 1960 plan goals, and by increased life-expectancy and reliability of electron tubes produced in 1959 and 1960.

4. Relationship With Other Components:

This Branch is now providing support to the USASIA analyst who is preparing a contribution to the China NIS.

The Branch was visited by two representatives of the Army Security Agency Board, who requested advance copies of five Branch projects. They were allowed to read draft copies of four of these projects, and have been promised early copies of the final reports. Draft texts were not furnished to them for retention.

A meeting was held with S/COM representatives to coordinate research on the Soviet Air Defense NIE.

25X1A9a [REDACTED] has been requested to participate in providing intelligence support to the US COCOM Delegation. A meeting will be held in Dayton, Ohio to lay the groundwork for the 1959 negotiations.

This Branch will participate with St/FM in an examination of Soviet manufactured electronic goods as soon as permission is received to visit the US firm which imported the goods.

- 4 -

SUBJECT: Monthly Activity Report, February, 1959

5. Future Plans:

Requests are being prepared for personnel of this Branch to visit several electronics manufacturing firms during the remainder of FY-1959. The visits will include firms manufacturing electronic computers, electronic components of missile systems, and semi-conductors.

A meeting concerning coordination between ORR and OSI and between the SIC and EIC subcommittees concerned with intelligence on electronics is scheduled to be held during the week of 2 March 1959. The meeting will include the DAD/RR, Secretary of the EIC, [REDACTED] and a representative of this Branch.

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